
















Documents on Diplomacy: Resources

One-Fisted or Two-Fisted: Secretary Seward v. France

PART 1: Determine which statements you, as Secretary of State, would support publicly. Rank the statements 1–10 in the order most appealing to you with #1 as your highest-ranked statement. Be prepared to defend your selections.

PART 2: Classify each statement as "One-fisted" or "Two-fisted"—One for diplomacy or Two for more forceful action. Again, be prepared to defend your selections.

RANK	STATEMENT	CIRCLE 1 OR 2
_____	It is the job of the Department of State to ". . .hold watch against foreign insult, intrusion, and intervention."	 
_____	The French think we might not maintain and preserve the Union. Perhaps we should pursue military action to warn of our displeasure.	 
_____	Emperor Napoleon III could very well exchange France's recognition of the Confederacy for maintaining control of Mexico.	 
_____	We will appear weak to the world if we do not apply the Monroe Doctrine.	 
_____	Non-intervention in the war between France and Mexico is the best course for the United States.	 
_____	We know that Mexico does not want monarchical rule imposed from abroad.	 
_____	The House of Representatives has passed a resolution calling the events in Mexico deplorable: the United States should express its displeasure of monarchical rule established by France. (April 4, 1864)	 
_____	Vice President Andrew Johnson said an expedition into Mexico would be a recreation for Union soldiers once the war at home ends.	 
_____	The Mexican venture is very expensive for the French. Fighting a guerrilla war against Benito Juarez has stretched their finances. We can just "wait them out."	 
_____	I sent instructions to the American Minister in France, February 12, 1866, demanding that the Emperor give us the exact time when he is leaving Mexico.	